UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/510
4 May 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 4 MAY 1999 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been instructed by my Government to draw your attention to the recent escalation of the aggression of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in which NATO is increasingly bombing civilian targets all over Yugoslavia and using weapons and ammunition prohibited by international conventions.

On 2 May 1999, NATO planes used special bombs to strike civilian targets, such as power plants, power transmission lines and transmission stations. The strikes short-circuited the power grid of the country, which accounted for a power outage in the preponderant part of Yugoslavia. Blackouts hit hospitals, water supply systems, food stores and bakeries. These atrocities affect the civilian population in the most direct way, in particular its most vulnerable categories: the sick, the elderly, children and newborn babies in incubators.

The air strikes were aimed at destroying the power grid of the country, the reconstruction of which is time-consuming and expensive. They constitute unprecedented crimes, genocidal in nature, as they target the entire population of Yugoslavia and are aimed at provoking shortages of food and other essential provisions which would cause widespread famine and, eventually, a humanitarian catastrophe of unseen proportions.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIĆ
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

99-12948 (E) 040599